

ISLAND OF GUAM OFFICE OF THE GOVERNOR HAGÅTÑA, GUAM 96932

hagåtña, Guam 96932 U.S.A.

EXECUTIVE ORDER NO. 2005-23

RELATIVE TO ESTABLISHING A GUAM STEERING COMMITTEE FOR BRAC 2005 POTENTIAL REALIGNMENT OF MILITARY LANDS ON GUAM

WHEREAS, in 2004, Congress authorized the fifth round of Base Realignment and Closure - commonly known as BRAC; and

WHEREAS, in February 2005, the Pentagon announced plans to shut down or scale back some 425 military facilities, the first such effort to save money in 10 years; and

WHEREAS, the downsizing is part of Defense Secretary Donald H. Rumsfield's long-term transformation of the Cold War era military and who has recently told lawmakers "the department continues to maintain more military bases and facilities than are needed, consuming and diverting valuable personnel and resources"; and

WHEREAS, in an effort to start the downsizing process, a nine-member commission has recently been appointed by President Bush that will review a list of closures that the Secretary of Defense will propose by May 16, 2005; and

WHEREAS, the Commission will then have until September 8, 2005 to make its report to the President; and

WHEREAS, the federal government previously owned 47,041 acres in Guam, of which 5,072 acres have been transferred to the government of Guam under the U.S. General Services Administration process and BRAC; and

WHEREAS, there are currently at least 2,249 acres of lands that remain under the ownership of the Navy and Air Force that appear to be unsaved and may be considered excess to current and future military operational, administrative, training and quality of life needs; and



ISLAND OF GUAM

OFFICE OF THE GOVERNOR HAGÅTÑA, GUAM 96932 U.S.A.

WHEREAS, these potentially excess lands are generally small parcels located outside of the main military bases and Guam's strategic military value will not be adversely affected by the release and transfer of these isolated pockets of military real estate located outside high value military installations; and

WHEREAS, the government of Guam wishes to include such lands under the BRAC 2005 transfer process; and

WHEREAS, the government of Guam in proceeding with its efforts at land return in no uncertain terms oppose military presence in Guam; and

WHEREAS, on the contrary, the government of Guam desires an increase in military presence and are proud of being an integral part of U.S. military strategy in the Pacific Region and its efforts to obtain excess military lands are simply recognition of the finite amount of land available for development in a small island environment.

NOW, THEREFORE, I, FELIX P. CAMACHO, *I Maga låhen Guåhan*, Governor of Guam, by virtue of the authority vested in me by the Organic Act of Guam, as amended, and the laws of Guam, do hereby order:

- 1. A task force consisting of fifteen (15) members is established to provide coordination of Guam's approach to the BRAC 2005 potential realignment of military lands in Guam; this task force shall be known as the "Guam Steering Committee for BRAC 2005"
- 2. The members of the committee established by this Executive Orders are:
 - a. Governor of Guam;
 - b. Chairperson, Committee on Tourism, Maritime, Military and Veterans Affairs;
 - c. Chairperson, Committee on Natural Resources, Utilities & Micronesian Affairs;
 - d. Chairperson, Committee on Finance, Taxation & Commerce;
 - e. President, Mayors' Council of Guam;



ISLAND OF GUAM OFFICE OF THE GOVERNOR HAGÅTÑA, GUAM 96932 U.S.A.

- e. One (1) representative of the Legislative Minority, to be chosen by the Minority;
- f. Guam's Delegate to Congress;
- g. Chairperson, Board of Directors, Guam Chamber of Commerce;
- h. Chairperson, Board of Directors, Guam Economic Development and Commerce Authority;
- i. Commander, Naval Forces Marianas, Advisor;
- j. Commander, 36th Air Base Wing, AAFB
- k. Five (5) representatives of the community at large who are not employees of either the federal or local government, to be appointed by the Governor.

SIGNED AND PROMULGATED at Hagåtña, Guam this ______ day of June, 2005.

FELIX P. CAMACHO I Maga'låhen Guåhan

Governor of Guam